UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

USDC SDNY
DOCUMENT
ELECTRONICALLY FILED
DOC #:
DATE FILED: 10//19/2021

United States of America,

-v-

Robert Pizarro,

Defendant.

17-cr-151 (AJN)
ORDER

ALISON J. NATHAN, District Judge:

On October 14, 2021, the Court received in the mail from Mr. Pizarro the attached motion for a writ of habeas corpus. The motion was signed by Mr. Pizarro on October 3, 2021, and postmarked October 5, 2021, and thus predates the Court's Opinion and Order dated October 6, 2021. Upon reviewing the motion, the Court concludes that it would not have altered its assessment of Mr. Pizarro's prior motions, which the Court denied without prejudice. For the reasons stated in the Court's Opinion and Order dated October 6, 2021, no further action will be taken on this filing.

Because Petitioner has not made a substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right, a certificate of appealability will not issue. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 2253.

This Court certifies pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(3) that any appeal from this Order would not be taken in good faith, so in forma pauperis status is denied. *See Coppedge v. United States*, 369 U.S. 438, 444–45 (1962).

The Clerk of Court is respectfully asked to mail a copy of this Order to Mr. Pizarro and note the mailing on the public docket.

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SO ORDERED.

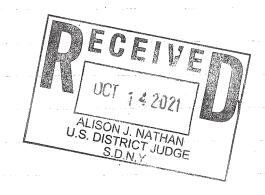
Dated: October 18, 2021

New York, New York

ALISON J. NATHAN United States District Judge

Case No: 17-cr-151 (AIN)

Comes Now Pro Se Petitioner Robert
Pizarro And Request That This Court Hold
His Pro Se Brief To A Less Stringent Standard Then One Filed And Prepared By A
Seasoned Attorney. See. Thomas V. Eby
481 U.S 434 440 (6th cir. 2007); Haines
V. Kerner, 404 U.S 519-21 (1972).
In Support Of Petitioners Present Brief,
He Asserts The Following Grounds For Relief.



Cover Page

See Attachment A

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United States District Court

Southern District Of New York

(NOTICE OF ACTION)

(AdTESTIFICANDUM)

United States of America V. 17-cr-151 (AJN) ORDER Robert Pizarro Pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure Rule 2. Cause Pursuant to U.S.C. A. 2241. Of Action Equitable Relief For Good Cause In The Inter-Habeas Corpus Pursuantto est of Justice U.S. Const. Art. I, 89, Writ of Habers Corpus Cause of Action Habeas Conadtestificandum, Writ Pus Adtestificandum Habeas of Habeas corpus adjici-Corpus Ad Subjiciendum, U.S. Const. Art, I, \$ 9,28 U.S.C. A & 2241 endum

Alison J. Nathan, District Judge:

Defendant has Satisfied the test for bad faith, good faith of the prosecution. That the test is whether the questioning party exhibited bad faith by Calling a witness sure to be unhelpful to its case.

Joseph Merceno As in the Prosecutions calling, relying on the witnesses of John Baumeister, Det. Eric Rivera, Gabriel Gullien, CI, D.A.N.Y. Cooperator, and Kasheen Cash Samuels)

None of these Persons were Cross examined by Court appointed Coursels of defendant Pizawo, as is the Sixth Amendment Right of Pizarro. Upon evidence introduced by the Prosecution to undermine the defense and Convict

by and through the probable cause for arrest of the defendant. Utilizing these uncooborated unfounded testimonies by these informants and government witnesses to arrest, Convict, Sentence the defendant to life plus Hyears impri-

Sonment.

Thus the right to confrontation was suppressed by the prosecution and the court. Moreover the right to meaningful confrontation means more than being allowed to confront a witness physically. A criminal defendant states that a violation of the confrontation Clause by Showing that he was prohibited from engaging in otherwise appropriate cross-examination designed to show a prototypical form of bias on the part of the witness and thereby to expose to the jury the fact from which jury of the witness. This Sixth Amendment Right to confrontation was not applied to the defendants present case Scenaria.

case I:17-di-201514AIN DeclipentATAL Filed 30/3947 at eaglicellifty denied these due process equal protection rights of the United States Constitution. Thus prejudicing Pizarro's opportunity at a fair trial, fair result, in his court proceedings. In futher violation of these aforementioned, foremention rights to the Constitution and the laws of these United States.

Bias refers both to a witness personal books for oragainst a party and to his ther motive to lie. As provided by defendant, the numerous violations of his rights by the police and the uncoobstated testimonies of the (CI) and induced testimonies by the government witnesses that were lare lies and untruths, unsubstantiated, or later proven to be lies.

See Brady v. Maryland (1963). Thus to make it Clear cross examination of bias is always a proper subject of cross-examination. To make cross examination based upon a witness bias effective (and thus satisfying the Sixth Amendment) defense counsel must be permitted to expose to the jury the facts from which jurrors could appropriately draw inferences relating to the reliquisity of the witness.

Atrial court ruling therefore informes on the Sixth Amendment Right to confrontation when it precludes the defense from pursuing a line of examination that is necessary to enable the jury to evaluate the witness credibility. It is not enough that the possibility of bias be mentioned, coursel must be permitted to present the nature and extent of the bias. Sec. <u>Drescall V. Delo</u>, 71 F. 3d 701 (8th cir. 1995); Trial counsel has a duty to follow leads, failure to properly utilize witnesses prior

Gabriel Güllien (Person who truly confessed to being involved with the murder of the victim) (who at this moment is incarcerated for another henious crime.) McCall v. O'Brady, 714
Supp. (N.D. ILL 1989); United States v. Tuker, 716 F. 2d
576 (9th cir. 1983); Hym, an v. Aiker, 824 F. 2d 1405; (4th Cir. 1987); Eldridge v. Atikins, 665 F. 2d 228 (8th cir. 1981).

Therefore this violation of the Sixth Amendment Confrontation Clause is of Paramont intent and objective to be relied upon as exculpatory evidence, that the jury should have heard for review of the proof needed for beyond a

reasonable doubt to convict...

Therefore the record will lobes reflect this monumental oversite that must be corrected to prevent this ongoing misscarriage of justice, constitutional error, that there are Three components of a true Brady violation as in this present case of the disputed information. (1) the information be favorable to the accused either because it is directly exculpatory or (2) because it is imperching (3) Suppressed by the government, and that it is material. This information is of a Brady nature and should be reviewed.

This information being presented to this court creates the reasonable probability that is material to this case. Strickland 527 U.S. at 281-82. Information is material when there is a reasonable probability that had the evidence been disclosed to the defense the result of the proceeding would have been different. United States v. Bagley, 473 U.S. 669, 882, 105 3.ct. 337, 587 L.Ed. 2d 481 (1986)

A reasonable probability of a different result occurs when the suppression "Undermines confidence in the cutcome

Case 1/17-Er-do,15,1/AJNK pokuments 1270 Fited 10/19/234 Rage 8 of 20 Bagley 473 U.S. at 678). When the information is favorable, Surpressed and material we must reverse irrespective of the good faith, bad faith of the prosecution. Brady, 373 U.S.

The burden is proven by the defendant, by and through out the record, reflecting the bias by not submitting evidence of anothers confession (Guillien; D.A.N.Y Cooperator) to the murder for proof beyond a reasonable doubt to convict. There fore (by law) this adtestificandum need be granted forthwithin the interest of justice, travesty, and to

prevent an ongoing manifest injustice also.

Finally, if the same evidence was in the possession of the prosecution there would be no special stipulations to serve the cause of justice. Therefore Pizano request that this honorable court issue a writ of habeas corpus adtestificandum, that he may be discharged from the unconstitutional confinement of the sentence to have fizarno brought back before the court for good cause, to be relieved of this these numerous constitutional violations and the Sixth Amendment violation of the Confrontation Clause of confession by (Gabriel Guillien) to the actual murder the defendant is / has been sentenced and convicted of ... That there was a grave miscarriage of justice in not allowing the defendant to cross-examine for exculpatory Evidence of the committed crime, and also ineffectiveness of counsel for not retrieving the information as exculpatory Brady material. Brady v Maryland (1963); That because defense counsel failed to investigate and present Mitigating evidence of the confession by prosecutions

Witness (CI/Guillien) during penalty phase of the proceeding warranted an evidentiary hearing to resolve the actual factual invocence, along with the ineffective assistance of coursel claim as well. See also Bean v. Calderon, 163 F.3d 1073 (9th cir. 1998); Christy V. Horn, 28 F. Supp. 2d 307 (W.D. Pa. 1998); U.S. Fx. Rel. Maxwell v. Gilmore, 37 F. Supp. 2d 1078 (N.D. III. 1999); Abdur Rahman V. Bell, 999, F. Supp. 1073 (M.D. Tenn. 1998); Corell V. Stewart, 137 F. 3d 1404 (9th cir. 1998); Dobbs v. Turpin, 142 F. 3d 1383 (11th cir. 1998); Dackson v. Herring, 42 F. 3d 1350 (11th cir. 1995); Baxter v. Thomas, 45 F. 3d 1501 (11th cir. 1995); Glock v. Singlebary, 84 F. 3d 385 (11th cir. 1994).

So prays petitioner that these claims for relief and allegations at law be adjudicated by the court to recieve full panoply of legal review or to convene a hearing to resolve the matter at law.

DECLERATION PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C 1746

I <u>Robert Pizamo</u> under penalty of prejury State that the aforementioned forementioned litigation, case law, Supported facts are true, correct to the best of my Knowledge and belief.

Dated: 9-20-2021

Respectfully Submitted: Mr. Robert Pizarro Robert Pizarro

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

On This day of <u>September 30, 2021</u>. I Sent A Copy of This Motion to the Clerk of the Court.

(Adtestificandum); (Decleration); and (Marshall Transport)

Respect fully Submitted: Robert Prais Robert Pizarro

One St.Andrewa Plaza New York, NY 10007

AUSA PROSECUTORS

Jessica Fender Jared Lenow

Jason Swergold

Margaret Graham

Ad testificandum & Writaof Habeas Corpus Defense Attorney Elizabeth E.Marcedonio 40 Fulton Street, 23 Flr. New York, NY 10004

> Louis M. Freeman 75 Maiden Lane, Suite 503 New York, NY 10038

Mark S. DeMarco 3867 E. Tremont Ave. Bronx, NY 10465

Carla M.Sanderson 260 Madison Ave.Flr.22 New York, NY 10016

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

ON THIS DAY OF October . 3 2021. I SENT A COPY OF THIS Ad testificandum Notice and writ to supeona the above mentioned parties to the Marshalls and clerk of the court.

Respectfully Submitted by

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

TO UNITED STATES MARSHALS OFFICE
UNITED STATES MARSHAL
500PEARL ST.SUITE 400
NEW YORK,NY 10007

NOTICE OF ACTION WRIT OF HABEAS

CORPUS Ad TESTIFICANDUM

TO PRODUCE THE BODY OF ROBERT PIZARRO

TO THE COURT OF THE DISTI
CT COURT OF NEW YORK, SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK. FOR THE PURPOSES OF TEST
IFYING ON HIS OWN BEHALF CONCERNING ACTUAL, FACTUAL INNOCENCE OF A CRIME NOT

COMMITTED BY HIM. DOCKET NO. 17 - Cv - 161.

SENT TO THE FOLLOWING PERSONS: Assistant United States Attorney's / Jessica Fender, Jared Lenow, Jason Swergold, Margaret Graham/at One St. Andrews Plaza New York, NY 10007.

Defense Attorney"s, Elizabeth E. Macedon o, 40 Fulton Street, 23 Flr. New York, NY 10004/Louis M. Freeman 75 Maiden Lane Suite 503 New York, NY 10038/Mark S. DeMarco 3867 E. Tremont AVE. Bronx, NY 10465/Carla M. Sanderson 260 Madison Ave Flr. 22 New York, NY 10016

United States Court House Honorable District Court Judge Judge Alison J.Nathan 40 Foley Square/New York, NY10007 Signature

Submitted by Petitioner

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

ON THIS DAY OF October 3 2021. PETITIONER SENT A COPY OF THIS WRIT TO THE UNITED STATES MARSHALS OFFICE AND THE CLERK OF THE COURT.

SUBMITTED BY PETITIONER

Attachment A BEGEIVE OCT 142021 Judge Alison J. Nathan ALISON J. NATHAN

Pizarro has legally satisfied his burden of proof in his actual factual innocence claim. He is entitled to relief from judgement or order, Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. Proc. Rule 60 (b). Pizarro has provided an attachment in accordance with his claims (verbatim) in (United States v. Ali Sadr Hashemi Nejad)

The government has in fact been withholding exculpatory evidence (and still are/is) that exonerates Pizarro Completely. It has been alleged that this prosecutorial misconduct is I was do to "lack of training", which these Southern District Attorney's Continue to argue in every case they get caught in Kno-

wingly Surpressing exculpatory evidence.

They alleged it in Pizarro's life changing case, two years prior to allegeng it in the Ali Sadr case, and God Knows how many other cases. These are "PATTERNS"! As quoted in newsarticle by hon. Judge Alison J. Nathan.

It is not lack of training to knowingly and intentionally stage evidence, as proven to be done in Pizarro's case. It's not lack of training to knowingly profeser evidence that was proven later-was never found or collected. And it's definitely not lack of training to knowingly lie on affidavik for probable cause.

This is criminal acts, intentionally done on behalf of these government attorney's in the Southern District of New York. This can no buger be categorize as lack of training or earors. The acts of these attorney's have left a person-human being-innocent of the crimes alleged in a gravely Predicament, along with his family.

Pizarro so prays that this honable Court does not let this intentionally miscourriage of Judg justice continue a second longer. Pizarro prays he be restored back to his constitutional right as a citizen of these United States of America-tohis life and liberty.

Respectfully Submitted Robert Pigaruro

TRULINCS 69026054 - PIZARRO, ROBERT - Unit: CAA-E-B

FROM: TO: 69026054

SUBJECT: Article Feb 25 2021 DATE: 09/28/2021 12:06:09 PM

Newly disclosed documents from inside the U.S. attorney's office in Manhattan capture a sense of panic and dread among prosecutors and their supervisors as one of their cases collapsed last year amid allegations of government misconduct.

The materials include a rare look at sensitive emails and text messages between junior prosecutors and their overseers after a federal judge began to inquire about lapses that ultimately led the Justice Department to abandon a conviction in a case it had already won.

Prosecutors in the Southern District of New York wrote each other in March 2020 that "yeah, we lied" in a letter to Judge Alison Nathan about a key document it had failed to share with defense lawyers. The office later retreated from that characterization, arguing instead the trouble resulted from a rush to file papers under a tight deadline.

In another newly revealed exchange, one supervisor in the terrorism and international narcotics section emailed his co-chief after the problems began to surface that the trial team had done some "pretty aggressive stuff here over the last few days."

"This is going to be a bloodbath," the other supervisor replied.

Earlier, a junior lawyer on the case suggested they "bury it" in a stack of other papers they provided the defendant, apparently in hopes the critical document would be overlooked during the rush of the trial.

Judge Nathan did not conclude the U.S. attorney's office engaged in intentional wrongdoing, but she has referred lawyers there to the Office of Professional Responsibility at Justice Department headquarters, a unit that investigates attorney misconduct. The judge also asked FBI inspectors to probe separate allegations against FBI agents on the case.

Nathan expressed astonishment that the disaster continues to unfold. In its latest filing, seven months after the judge began to demand detailed explanations, she said the government had come clean about yet another failure.

"The trial team's failure to promptly investigate the origins of [the key document] and to communicate about discovery with other governmental agencies reflects a systematic disregard of their disclosure obligations," the judge wrote. "Prosecutors then compounded these missteps through a sustained pattern of refusing to fess up."

The extraordinary saga unfolded in a case against Ali Sadr Hashemi Nejad, accused of violating American sanctions laws against Iran by moving millions of dollars in payments for his family business through the U.S. financial system. His lawyers, Brian Heberlig and Reid Weingarten, have since ensured Sadr will face no immigration-related consequences from the failed prosecution.

"The prosecutorial misconduct in this case has been shocking and disappointing," Heberlig told NPR. "We applaud Judge Nathan's decision to fully expose this extraordinary saga to prevent it from happening again."

The U.S. Attorney's office had sought to shield their internal communications from public view. But the judge found there's a significant public interest in understanding what went wrong and ensuring it never happens again.

"The Court hopes that as the Southern District of New York puts this unfortunate chapter behind it, these documents will provide other prosecutors and members of the public some insight into how the Government came to so badly mishandle its ethical obligations in this case, some deterrence for misconduct in future prosecutions, and some assurance that the judiciary treats these matters with the utmost seriousness," Nathan wrote.

A spokesman for Acting U.S. Attorney Audrey Strauss declined comment on the matter. The office had previously pledged to overhaul its training for prosecutors to prevent the sort of systemic shortcomings the Sadr case identified. With the exception of one supervisor who has left the government for private law practice, the other prosecutors remain in the U.S. attorney's office.

A spokesman for the Justice Department unit that investigates lawyer wrongdoing didn't offer any comment on the judge's referral in the Sadr case. Transparency advocates have long criticized that office, known as OPR, for taking too long and for operating in secret.

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TRULINCS 69026054 - PIZARRO, ROBERT - Unit: CAA-E-B

On Wednesday, Senate Judiciary Chairman Dick Durbin, D-III., and Utah Republican Sen. Mike Lee introduced legislation that would expand the jurisdiction of the department's well-regarded inspector general to scrutinize attorney misconduct. They said the move is needed to enhance accountability and oversight.

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TRULINCS 69026054 - PIZARRO, ROBERT - Unit: CAA-E-B

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FROM: TO: 69026054

SUBJECT: Article Feb 17 2021 DATE: 09/28/2021 12:06:09 PM

MIAMI (AP) A federal judge has urged the Justice Department to open an internal probe into possible misconduct by a team of high-profile prosecutors in New York for withholding key evidence in the case of an Iranian businessman charged with breaking U.S. sanctions.

Judge Alison Nathan said in a ruling Wednesday that she found no evidence that prosecutors from the terrorism and international narcotics unit in the southern district of New York intentionally withheld key evidence or misled the court in the case against Ali Sadr Hashemi Nejad.

Nonetheless she viewed the errors which included a prosecutor's suggestion that the government "bury" a key document severe enough to warrant a "full investigation" by the Department of Justice's Office of Professional Responsibility. She also granted a request by The Associated Press to unseal documents in which prosecutors were ordered to explain their mishandling of the evidence.

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"Accountability and reform can also come from sunlight," Nathan ruled.

"The prosecutorial misconduct in this case is of exceptional public interest, bearing both on the fair administration of justice for criminal defendants and the efficacious prosecution of violations of federal law."

A spokesperson for U.S. Attorney Audrey Strauss in Manhattan declined to comment.

Sadr was found guilty last March of using a network of front companies to funnel through U.S. banks more than \$115 million in payments related to a construction project in Venezuela to his family's business in Iran, in violation of U.S. sanctions. He faced a maximum of 125 years in prison for charges including money laundering and bank fraud.

Then, as Sadr was awaiting sentencing, prosecutors suddenly dropped the charges while revealing what they called "disclosure -related issues" that they acknowledged would've altered Sadr's defense strategy.

Judge Nathan at the time excoriated prosecutors for the abrupt reversal and what she called "patterns" in the mishandling of evidence that possibly extended beyond this single case. In an unusual move, she ordered prosecutors to come clean and explain their actions, in writing and under oath.

The AP last October intervened in the case to ask the judge to make public the declarations filed under seal by six prosecutors, including Emil Bove and Shawn Crowley, who headed the unit at the time of the Sadr trial. As a result of Nathan's order, prosecutors have until Feb. 24 to propose redactions or comply. Crowley has since moved into private practice while Bove remains co-head of the unit.

The embarrassing revelations in the case led the U.S. attorney in Manhattan to reinforce training for prosecutors and investigators. Under what's known as Brady rules, prosecutors are required to hand over to defendants evidence that may help them prove their innocence.

The judge's unusual reprimand also reverberated in several other sanctions cases in New York, including one involving late disclosures of evidence taken from the computer of a Venezuelan pilot who had worked for years as a government informant but was later found to have lied to his handlers.

Christine Chung, an attorney representing a defendant fingered by the Venezuelan informant, said prosecutors dodged a bullet in not facing a more severe sanction from the judge.

"It's cold comfort that there wasn't intentional misconduct when the prosecuting office that considers itself the best in the nation fails to turn over exonerating evidence because of 'grave' and 'systemic' failure," said Chung, who previously worked in the same federal prosecutors' office.

"The sworn declarations of the individual prosecutors, when unsealed as the court ordered, will presumably make even clearer

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TRULINCS	69026054 - PI	ZARRO, ROBER	T - Unit: CAA-E-E	3	

just how bad those system failures were."

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TRULINCS 69026054 - PIZARRO, ROBERT - Unit: CAA-E-B

FROM: TO: 69026054

SUBJECT: Article Feb 21, 2021 DATE: 09/28/2021 01:21:11 PM

federal judge is pushing for an investigation into the conduct of prosecutors who secured a guilty verdict in a sanctions case that was later dismissed over disclosure failures.

Judge Alison Nathan of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, in an order this week, pressed for a review by the U.S. Justice Department's Office of Professional Responsibility, an ethics and integrity investigative unit, over what she described as the systemic nature of errors and apparent misconduct related to the case against Ali Sadr Hashemi Nejad.

Mr. Sadr had been charged in 2018 for allegedly using a network of front companies to funnel more than \$115 million in payments related to a housing project his Iranian family business had agreed to build in Venezuela on behalf of the Iranian government, according to the Justice Department. U.S. sanctions generally prohibit the use of U.S. financial services for transactions involving Iran.

Jurors convicted Mr. Sadr of bank fraud, money laundering and sanctions charges after a March 2020 trial. But prosecutors sought to drop the case in June after reviewing allegations by Mr. Sadr that the government had failed to turn over possibly exculpatory information in a timely manner. Judge Nathan indicated that prosecutors could have faced disciplinary action before she dismissed the case in July.

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In an order Wednesday, she said prosecutors didn't knowingly withhold the information and that they didn't intentionally misrepresent facts. But she said a review of the case would help prevent future disclosure debacles and the misuse of searchwarrant findings.

WSJ NEWSLETTER

Notes on the News

The news of the week in context, with Tyler Blint-Welsh.

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A spokesman for the U.S. attorney's office for the Southern District of New York declined to comment. A spokesman for the Justice Department declined to comment.

Reid Weingarten, a Steptoe & Johnson LLP lawyer who represents Mr. Sadr, said Judge Nathan's order is an acknowledgment of mistakes made "one after another" by prosecutors, but confirmation that they didn't act maliciously. Mr. Sadr, who lives in the Washington, D.C. area, is trying to rebuild his life and "get past this nightmare," Mr. Weingarten said.

Prosecutors are obligated to hand over before trial any evidence that could help defendants prove their innocence. Prosecutors who suppress such evidence can face allegations of misconduct and possible disciplinary action.

In the Sadr case, government lawyers acknowledged failures in quickly disclosing potentially exculpatory information during, before and after the trial.

Judge Nathan, in a September opinion, said prosecutors had tried to "bury" evidence. She described systemic issues related to suppression and disclosure in the case, as well issues such as a changing cast of prosecutors working on the case and possible communication failures between prosecutors and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. She also cited insufficient training for FBI agents and prosecutors on limits to searches of electronic discoveries from search warrants and on disclosure obligations..

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TRULINCS 69026054 - PIZARRO, ROBERT - Unit: CAA-E-B

In recent months, prosecutors in the Sadr case described a number of warrant-related issues in response to questions from Judge Nathan. Federal investigators mined documents obtained from state search warrants for federal crimes without the authorization of a federal-level warrant, according to court documents. Mr. Sadr's case was first investigated by the Manhattan district attorney's office before it was referred to federal prosecutors.

Judge Nathan on Wednesday asked the government to submit a report within six months concerning disclosures related to the use of information gathered by the FBI through search warrants.

An FBI spokeswoman declined to comment.

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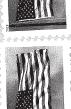




















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Judge Alison J. Nathan Inited States District Courthouse HO Foley Square New York, NY 10007





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